

# The Gateway

The University of Nebraska at Omaha's Student Newspaper

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Established 1913

Friday, February 6, 1998

Volume 97, No. 37



Kylan Crawford, Shafif Liwru, Seku Neblett and Latisha Davis (left to right) join together to depict African music at the AMS program "Rhythm of a Nation." Neblett, master drummer, led the group Feb. 2 in the MBSC.

## Maverick Artist Wins Best of Show

by Jon Shradar

Richard Saxton, a UNO junior art/sculpture major, received the Best of Show Award at the annual Nebraska Art Teachers Association's (NATA) Undergraduate Exhibition.

Saxton's multimedia piece, "Industrial Society and Its Future," may frighten some viewers. The car door garnished with railroad spikes and rotting potatoes is a "memorial" of sorts to the ideas of Ted Kaczynski, the Unabomber, whose portrait is the centerpiece.

"The piece really revolves around his (Kaczynski's) ideas," said Saxton, the former business major who transferred to fine arts after a professor "put down creativity."

Accompanying the car door is a walkman with Kaczynski's manifesto read to music. Saxton explains his piece as a "nonviolent" way to present Kaczynski's ideas. "He had some really good things to say," Saxton said.

Saxton was one of over 400 artists from Nebraska that entered slides of their work in the exhibition. Only 61 pieces were chosen to go on display in Nebraska Wesleyan's Elder Gallery in Lincoln.

"The works that I have selected seem, somehow in some way, to leave me with the impression that I encountered more than just oil on canvas or ink on paper, but something irreducibly human and full of integrity," said Dan Siedell, a juror for the NATA show.

Saxton is pleased that he received the top honor in the exhibition. The months of research and work on the piece paid off.

Saxton cites Marcel DuChamp as a large influence on his work. DuChamp was one of the first artists to involve the viewer as part of the art.

One of Saxton's goals is to turn more students on to art.

"I guess if there's one thing I'd like to do,

it is get more people interested in art, especially in the UNO community," Saxton said.

He says that with more student involvement it would be easier to do more shows and bring in "big name" artists to share their knowledge.

Saxton plans on getting his teaching degree and would like to teach high school art. But he does not rule out other possibilities and, of course, art will play a vital role in his future.

One artist Saxton looks up to is Tim Rollins. Rollins is a teacher in Brooklyn who works with children that have learning disabilities. Rollins teaches the students through the use of art. He'll find something that is going on around the children and they do works of art to help explain the material. Rollins then sells his work and gives the money back to the community to fund such programs.

Saxton sees his work becoming more "community" based. He wants to do pieces that have positive effects on the community and he is currently working on an idea for a work with firefighters.

When asked how he wants to be remembered when he is gone from UNO, Saxton quickly diverts any thoughts of fame. He wants his legacy to be in the greater awareness of art among the students.

Saxton's artwork can be viewed in the NATA show, which continues in the Nebraska Wesleyan's Elder Gallery through Feb. 22. The gallery is located in the Roger Center for Fine Arts, 50th Street and Huntington Avenue, in Lincoln. The gallery is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

## Deferred Maintenance Soon a Reality

by Wendy Townley

On Tuesday, LB1100 was proposed allowing the University of Nebraska to increase annual spending on the upkeep of buildings on the four Nebraska campuses.

As a result of the conditions of campus buildings, a deferred maintenance backlog of \$108 million has occurred.

"Many of the university buildings have been built 2 or 3 generations ago," L. Dennis Smith, NU president, said Tuesday. "One of the buildings that will be demolished is Bancroft on the city campus of UNL. This building began in 1914 as an elementary school. The ceilings have asbestos and there is an inaccessibility for disabled students."

Improper air-handling systems such as air conditioning and heating, the presence of asbestos in ceilings, and the inaccessibility of these buildings to disabled students are all

contributing factors to this decision.

"The entrances to these buildings are not in compliance with new national standards for the disabled," Smith said.

NU has presented a two-way approach to improving buildings on the four campuses. An increase in annual spending for building upkeep is one of the methods.

"Last year, \$5.9 million was appropriated for the university and the four state colleges. In a partnership with the Nebraska colleges,

**The funds that will repair the campus facilities will be matched by university and state college tuition revenues.**

see MAINTENANCE, Page 5

## Clinton May Cut Funding for Perkins Loans

by Helen Evans

President Clinton has recently proposed to eliminate Perkins Loans.

After promising to increase financial aid for students, Clinton has stated that he plans to dissolve federal capital contributions for Perkins Loans.

On Tuesday, Jan. 14, higher education governmental relations officers gathered together in an emergency meeting with a chief purpose of formulating tactics to contest one of Clinton's latest proposals. It seems that Clinton's proposition to do away with the Perkins Loan is a reversal of policy that was previously supported by the White House administration and the United States Department of Education.

According to lobbyists for organizations representing colleges and universities, the Office of Management and Budget has recommended no money for Perkins Loans in the 1999 budget proposal. Lobbyists reaction to this may have convinced the administration to cut the federal contribution in half from this year's \$135 million.

Formerly the National Defense Student Loan Program, the Federal Perkins Loan Program was authorized in 1958 and is the old-

est federally supported student-aid program. Established by Congress, the program provides long-term, low-interest loans to students with exceptional financial need. Under the program, loans are made through a school's financial aid office. The school acts as the lender, and the loan is made with government funds. Students must then pay the loans back, just as they would any other loan.

The amount that students actually receive depends on the student's financial need and the school's level of funding.

The amount of the loan for undergraduate students can range up to \$3,000 a year with a total maximum borrowed over the undergraduate years of \$15,000.

For graduate and

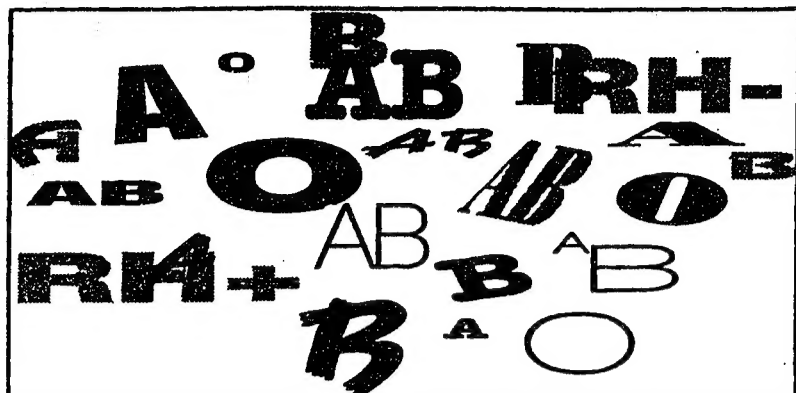
professional studies students, the amount that can be borrowed each year is \$5,000 with a maximum of \$30,000 that can be borrowed in total.

UNO student Julie Guida said, "The Perkins Loan offers a substantial amount of money to be granted to students in need. I think it is definitely going to place many students in the disadvantage if Clinton's proposal is carried out."

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# J-Students Can Tell You: This Dog Still Barks

by Tim Mills

According to the old saying, 'everybody's a critic.' Dr. Warren Francke, right here in UNO's department of Communications, is one of the best.

In the halls of the Arts and Sciences building, Francke is probably best known as "that journalism instructor that's really tough." Much of the rest of Omaha knows him as the man who watched the watchdogs. From 1983 until 1990, Francke kept a close eye on the local — and occasionally national — media circus. His unique role as a media critic on Channel Six's "Watching the

Watchdogs" show grew out of his columnist duties at the now defunct Sun newspaper.

"I came to write a lot about the media," Francke said. "And as a result Channel Six came to me."

Shortly after he started at Channel Six, The Sun newspaper group went out of business.

"I was suddenly not writing a newspaper column, but subsequently other newspapers kept popping up asking me to write columns," Francke recalled. "For a good share of the time that I was doing TV commentary, I would do newspaper columns also dealing with media."

That started the ball rolling. With his exposure in print and on television, it wasn't long until radio stations were after him and Francke was crowned "Omaha's media critic." As it turns out, his role was a unique one, not only in Omaha, but in the country.

Under the leadership of the "Dean of News Directors" Steve Murphy, Francke was granted the freedom to not only criticize the *Omaha World Herald* and local television stations, but also to, in a sense, bite the hand that fed him, Channel Six.

Francke recounted one segment where he actually showed clips of and praised another

station's weather forecaster during his show — a taboo in light of all the time and effort television stations spend promoting their own on-air personalities.

Francke's comments drew a variety of responses from the community and especially those involved with the media at the time. Bob

McMorris, a writer at the *Omaha World Herald* once claimed Francke's show should be called, "Watching the WatchDog" because, in his opinion, Francke devoted too much time to criticizing the *Omaha World Herald*. Another

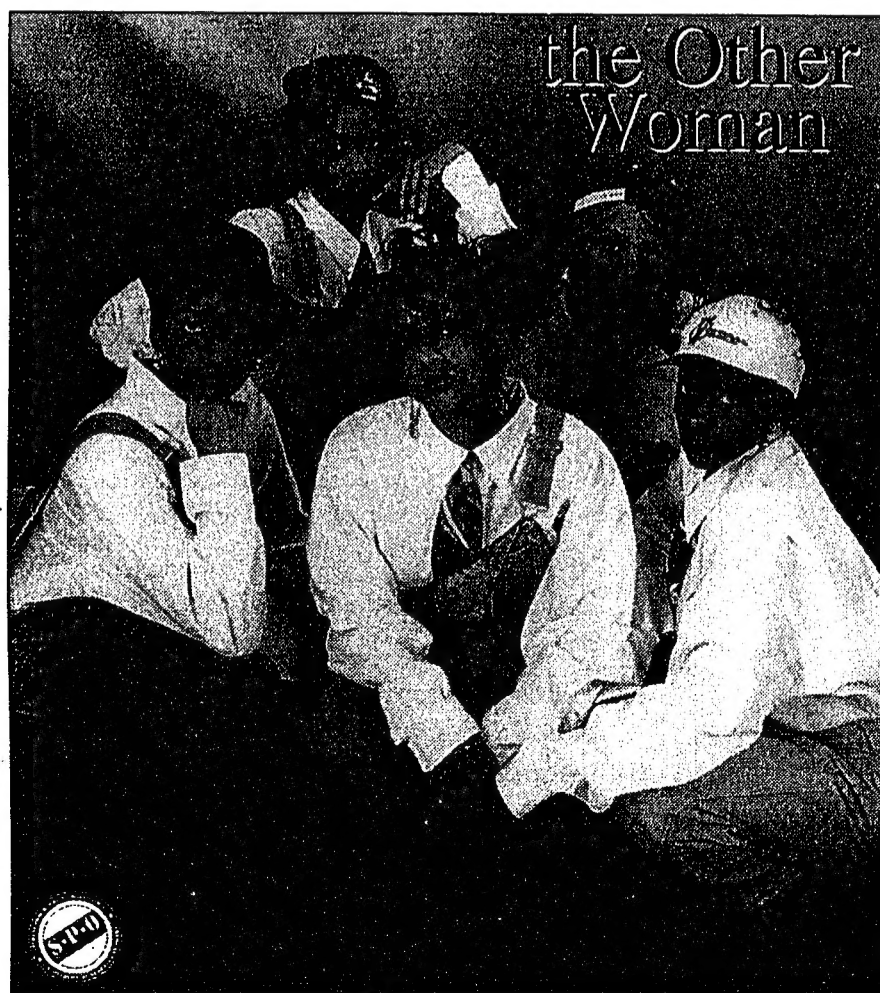
of the paper's writers advised Francke to "lighten' up."

"I look at some of those afterwards," Francke said. "I think I agree with that, sometimes. Sometimes things did get a little heavy."

One of those heavier commentaries exposed the *World Herald's* failure to mention that a prominent staff member was at the center of a controversy involving the city's property evaluations. Others centered on the University of Nebraska Medical Center's public relations department providing false information to reporters about the death of a patient and a problem Channel Seven had with identifying sources. Francke's comments weren't always of the doom and gloom nature. He also used his forum to "nag" Channel Seven to move their *Nightline* news program 11:30 p.m. to a time when "people could watch it" instead of sitcom reruns. Other commentaries included urging the *Omaha World Herald* to hire an editorial cartoonist, and the one that drew the most public response, the *Omaha World Herald* "bowing" to Michael Jackson.

"He pressured newspapers to run free ads," Francke said leaning forward in his chair with

see FRANCKE, Page 5



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## The Gateway

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The Gateway is published by the University of Nebraska at Omaha Student Publications Committee on Tuesdays and Fridays during the fall and spring semesters and on Tuesdays during the summer sessions.

Advertising inquiries should be directed to the advertising manager.

Other inquiries or complaints should be directed to the editor. Copies of the Student Publication Committee inquiry/complaint policy are available at the Gateway office.

The Gateway is funded as follows: 70 percent advertising revenue, 30 percent student fees allocated by Student Government. Address: Gateway, University of Nebraska at Omaha, South 60 and Dodge Streets, Omaha NE 68162.

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# Lunch and Learn at the Learning Center

by Helen Evans

The UNO Learning Center is sponsoring a series on college learning strategies called Lunch & Learn.

During this sequence of mini workshops, presenters will introduce an array of practical college-study skill strategies. The workshops are designed to help those attending become more effective and efficient students. The series began on Jan. 27.

When asked what the two main goals of this set of workshops are, Learning Center Director Jan Leuenberger said, "The first goal is to increase the students awareness of where to seek assistance in developing study skills. Second, I know that the learning strategies that the Learning Center offers to students will, in fact, have a positive impact on their academic goals. We try to encourage students to use them."

The first set of workshops, which took place Jan. 27 and 28, dealt with a difficulty many students face: not having enough hours in the day to actually get their schoolwork and studying done. Some students have families that keep them busy. Others may have one or more jobs or participate in athletics which limits their time, as well.

The workshops were held in the Omaha Room and the Gallery Room.

The next set of workshops will take place the first week in February. They are targeted at those students who have to read their assigned chapters over and over again and still don't remember what they have read.

The first of the two workshops will be held in the Gallery Room on Feb. 3. The second part of this workshop will take place in the Counsel Room on Feb. 4.

Another struggle students face is organizing their lecture notes and structuring them so they will be able understand them when it is time for review. The Note Taking Workshop is one solution to this problem. It will be held in the Gallery Room on Feb. 10 and 11.

Byoung-Heon Choi, one of the Learning

Center's presenters said, "I will be presenting in the area of note taking. I believe this workshop will be very helpful to students, especially when it comes to improving their note-taking skills."

Donna Menke, another Learning Center presenter added, "I am presenting in almost every area. This set of workshops is similar to the one we offered to incoming students in the beginning of the semester called Class Act. There will be activities as well as strategies introduced to the students. Hopefully students will gain many new skills from our presentations."

Helping students develop their writing skills is the focus of the fourth set of workshops. It will teach students the basic structures of writing, including how to develop thesis statements and topic sentences. It will also show students how to produce strong, cohesive writing samples. The first section of this particular set of workshops will be held on Feb. 17 in the Gallery Room. The second section will be on Feb. 18 in the Counsel Room.

The fifth and final set of workshops will center around test-taking skills. It addresses the complications that can arise when students "freeze up" before taking a test. Both parts of the series will be held in the Gallery room on Feb. 24 and 25.

All workshops are from 12:00 p.m. to 12:50 p.m. Each of the workshop locations, Omaha Room, Gallery Room and Counsel Room, can be found in the Milo Bail Student Center. There is no need to register, just attend. Students can bring their lunch, too.

Deborah Kimberlin, Learning Center specialist said, "I think there has been a substantial amount of advertising and I anticipate a good turnout. If we end up with more students than we expected, then we will simply go to a larger room. I am very optimistic."

If students have any questions, they can stop by the Learning Center located in EAB 117 or call 554-2992.

## from PERKINS, Page 1

Now, students can receive this money through their school. The school gives the student a check or credit the student's account. The loan will probably be divided into two payments, unless the loan is for a very small amount. Unlike other student loans, Perkins Loan borrowers do not have to pay origination or insurance fees.

This proposed cutback by Clinton may cause many students to put off college while they work at minimum wage jobs to pay for school.

Students that attend school and support a family may also face difficulties if this cutback goes through.

Rena Cherry, another UNO student said, "I can't imagine what will happen if Clinton's proposal is put into effect. I am a single mother, and this loan helps me tremendously. Not only does it help me pay for school, but it also enables me to pay for other bills, too. I think it would be a poor decision on the president's part to cut the Perkins Loan."

UNO junior Brian Haywood said, "I play football for UNO and the money from the Perkins Loan allows me to have funds to pay for expenses that I am not able to make from working a full time job."

Payments on the Perkins Loan begin nine months after the student graduates or leaves school. The amount that is paid back each month depends on the amount that the student has borrowed and the length of time that

it takes for the student to pay back the loan. Each student, however, is only allowed up to 10 years to pay back the Perkins Loan.

In addition, deferments and forbearance can be granted to borrowers with documented hardship.

The loans carry a number of cancellation provisions such as public service through VISTA, the Peace Corps and for teaching in teacher shortage areas. The Federal Direct Student Loan Program does not offer students any of these benefits. The fact that the Federal Perkins Loan Program is campus-based is also an advantage for students. The local administration of funds allows schools to tailor the program to best fit the borrower's needs, thus insuring efficient procedure.

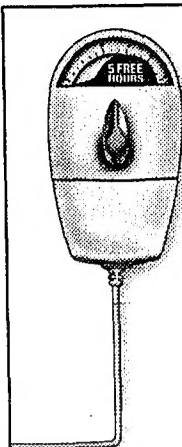
Those opposing Clinton's proposal are calling people they know in the administration, organizing letter-writing campaigns, preparing opinion editorials for placement in local papers and contacting members of Congress, congressional staff or committee staff.

The National Association Student Personnel Administration (NASPA) Public Policy Advisory Committee, one that is nationwide, is committed to addressing issues of concern to its members and to the millions of students it represents.

Cheryl D. Lovell, Chair of the NASPA Public Policy Advisory Committee, says "This proposal can be reversed if the administration hears from concerned citizens."

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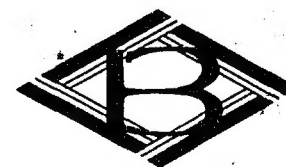
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# Gateway Opinion

## Martin Should Walk

opinion by Sean Guilfoyle

There is golf in Omaha in the midst of this winter blast. No, it's not on any "real" golf course in town. It's down at Sports Quest, 120th and Dodge (a shameless plug for my place of employment). It's virtual golf, and it's amazingly real. About the only thing you don't have to do is walk the entire course. After you hit, you are immediately moved to your next shot. No walking? Seems kind of minute in the whole scheme of the sport we know as golf. But walking has become quite a controversy on the PGA Tour.

Casey Martin, a Nike Tour golf player, is lobbying to ride in a golf cart when participating in tour events, and has sued the PGA to

If a disabled baseball player was unable to run the bases, would we have a designated runner start from home plate and leg it out to first base? Would basketball goals have to be lowered when a disabled basketball player was unable to throw the ball the necessary 10 feet?

allow him to do so. The basis of his lawsuit lies in the Americans with Disabilities Act. Martin suffers from Klippel-Trenaunay-Weber Syndrome, a circulatory disorder which has limited his ability to walk.

As the rules stand now, carts are not allowed. For those of us who have played on various courses, we know the rigor of walking 18 holes, pausing only to chuck our nearest club into the lake and throw back a few beers.

I have played rounds where I have driven a cart. It does have its advantages. The one I remember as a kid was being able to drive. I couldn't drive a car on the street, but I was allowed to drive on my own "highway," a.k.a. the cart path, and have quite a time.

In addition to the fun of getting to drive, I also didn't have to lug my clubs around on my back, walking up steep inclines and through muddy water (that's usually where my shots were to be found, if at all). In comparing riding and walking, the difference was enormous. By walking the entire course, I was physically as well as mentally drained. The 18th hole was a

foregone thought as I dreamed of getting to sit down in the clubhouse upon the completion of my round. When I was riding, the 18th hole seemed like the ninth, and I was physically ready to go another round.

Should Martin be allowed to ride in a cart? While it is a courageous and heartwarming story, the rules should not be adjusted. This is not a case where the Americans with Disabilities Act should apply. While Martin has a physical disability, the game should not be altered in a way that would change the makeup of golf. By allowing Martin to ride in a cart, the PGA would be doing just that. Golf is not just about swinging sticks and hitting a dimpled, white ball. Walking the course is physically draining, and by exempting someone from such exercise would give an unfair advantage to one player over the other.

If we were to change the game of golf, would it stop there?

If a disabled baseball player was unable to run the bases, would we have a designated runner start from home plate and leg it out to first base? Would basketball goals have to be lowered when a disabled basketball player was unable to throw the ball the necessary 10 feet? Would we have to give a person with a muscle disorder a golf ball that traveled farther than any other to help make the playing field more even?

These scenarios may seem quite ridiculous, but it helps to show how walking the course is an integral part of golf. By taking that aspect away, the game is changed for the worse.

I have the utmost respect for Martin. His struggle to reach his dream is valiant, and my hat is off to him. This is simply a part of the game that should not be changed.

Of course, the PGA is in a lose-lose situation. If they win the lawsuit, they have shunned a disabled Martin which is terrible for public relations. If they lose the case, then the PGA must change its rules which it has tried to avoid.

Martin doesn't have a number of viable alternatives. The 25 year old could wait until he turns 50, the age when he would be eligible to play on the Senior PGA Tour, where they allow carts.

In the meantime, he should try his hand at virtual golf down at Sports Quest. He could take all the hacks he wants without having to walk. A virtual golf league? Martin could be the first superstar, continuing to play the game he loves. Somebody get me ESPN on the phone.



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## Letters to the Editor

### To the Editor:

Dana Nelsen would have us believe that execution and self defense are one in the same, and that taking the life of someone mentally ill and no longer a threat to the public is heroic. In no way can I see how inadvertently killing someone in self defense or in the defense of another in a critical situation can even possibly be on the same level as slaughtering an individual who is incarcerated and no longer preying on the public.

Nelsen is right: when you commit acts heinous enough to land you on death row, you do forfeit your life, but I fail to see the supposed "reward" in spending the rest of your natural one in prison that (s)he talks about.

You don't even have to spend time in a real one to imagine what life in prison must really be like in reality and not the pictures death penalty advocates often paint. Think of your most torturous day of junior high detention, sitting in that stuffy classroom on a beautiful spring day while all your friends play outside, no one in the room but Bruno, the 8th grade bully, who would gladly eat your spleen if someone would dare him to and Mr. Applethorne, the Stalinist gym teacher, has no desire to be forced to watch you. Now imagine living that every day, every night, for the rest of your life. Regardless of what's in the cell, it's still a cell, it's still the rest of your life surrounded by hopelessness.

Executing people like Joubert and Dahmer only lets them off easy.

So my answer to your questions is this: Yes. Yes, my stance on the death penalty is and was the same when my friends were murdered. I want their killers alive. Yes, my stance would be the same if someone mutilated, raped and murdered my child and ate my dog. I want them alive because I want justice. Life in hell is a sure bet, hell after death is a gamble, and killing them makes me no better, especially if

emotions got in the way and ended up killing the wrong person.

Justice is the key word here. While Nelsen wants us to believe that executing prisoners is heroic and just, the very fact that (s)he has no problem taking innocent lives because the system screwed up shows it not to be heroic at all. (S)he wants us to believe that the death penalty shows great faith in the criminal justice system, but in reality it shows either a naive and dangerous blind faith or the complete lack of faith in the systems intended purpose, the punishment and rehabilitation of criminals. I don't know about you, but I fail to see how anyone can be usefully rehabilitated by several million volts of electricity.

More importantly, this society has backslid into a sensationalistic, media-seduced, ignorant cesspool, where another Sacco and Venzetti could happen in a heartbeat. You remember them, don't you? A couple of immigrants executed for a crime merely because they were immigrants and anarchists, on at best circumstantial evidence rather than truth. Don't believe me? In my criminal justice class we were asked to pretend to be the OJ jury and that the prosecution and defense had only given their opening statements when the judge called the trial over. Only four people voted to acquit. Based merely on opening statements; no evidence, no testimony, no proof, all but four found him guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, and Nelsen wants the power of life and death rest in these people's hands. I see nothing heroic here and I fear for those who do.

JB Jones

*a note: I used (s)he where ever a pronoun was used because Dana is a name that could be either a male or a female and since I didn't know I figured I'd cover the bases. And my full name incase the name I go by is unsuitable is Jennifer.*

## Editorial/Letter Policy

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the University of Nebraska at Omaha or the NU Board of Regents. Opinions in signed columns and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Gateway staff or the Student Publications Committee.

Letters to the editor will be selected for publication on the basis of timeliness, clarity and available space. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters for publication. Letters must be signed using the writer's first and last names. Letters must include the writer's address and phone number for verification purposes only. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.

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## Campus Calendar

for Feb. 6 - 13

### African American Book Display

Feb. 1- 28 in the Milo Bail Student Center

### "The Time Has Come"

part 3 in the "Eyes on the Prize" video series  
Feb. 10, 12 p.m.

### The Other Woman

(Female Vocal Group)  
Thursday Feb. 12, 11:30 a.m., MBSC Nebraska room

### Maverick Football Red Cross Blood Drive

Feb. 9, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., MBSC. Call 554-2869 for more information

### Great Plains Jazz Festival

Feb. 6 and 7 in Strauss Performing Arts Center  
Feb. 6 Competition for area middle and high school jazz groups  
Feb. 7 Finale Concert, 4 p.m. Tickets for the finale are available at 554-3427.

### UNO Wrestling

Saturday Feb. 7, 7 p.m. in Sapp Fieldhouse

### Masters And Music Russian Rhapsody

Sunday Feb. 8, 4 p.m. Weber Fine Arts Building, admission \$15

### "Lower Moments in Higher Education"

Dr. Otto Bauer, professor of communication, speaks on his book, "Lower Moments in Higher Education" Feb. 12, 7:30- 8:30 University Library Room 205



# Fitness Helps Improve Life

by Melanie Wilson

Need to keep that New Year's resolution to lose weight? Well, UNO might just have a program that will work for everybody. This wonder of nature is now called Fitness for Life, though other names have preceded it. It is a 12-week program which runs Monday through Thursday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

The first session is Monday, Feb. 1, and the coaches add their knowledge and experience. In addition, individual time is spent with each person involved to perfect the way to exercise their body and get the most out of their workout.

Three graduate assistants in the physical education lab, Tanya Schramm, Aaron Sinnett and Kerry Foxhoven, are the main attraction, coaching the exercises for the Monday, Wednesday and Thursday sessions and giving lectures at the Tuesday sessions. Along with these three graduate assistants, others have signed on to give the classes their lectures, including Bio-Mechanics Professor Nick Stergiou, plus dietitians and aquatics professors.

Back in 1980, Mr. Berg started the Adult Fitness Program. His hope was to show people how to work out safely and efficiently and give individual training to the people involved. According to Schramm, Berg wanted people to also become "educated on exercise." Ten years later in 1990, The Weightloss Program became the

official name.

The idea for a fitness program came from UNO's desire for a community-based service program. Its name was changed to target a younger group of people to become involved who desperately needed this type of program to stay healthy

**Back in 1980, Berg started the Adult Fitness Program. His hope was to show people how to work out safely and efficiently and give individual training to the people involved.**

for life. Although this program has undergone many different changes, the principle behind it has remained the same: to educate others about how to stay healthy and give one-on-one training to get the best results.

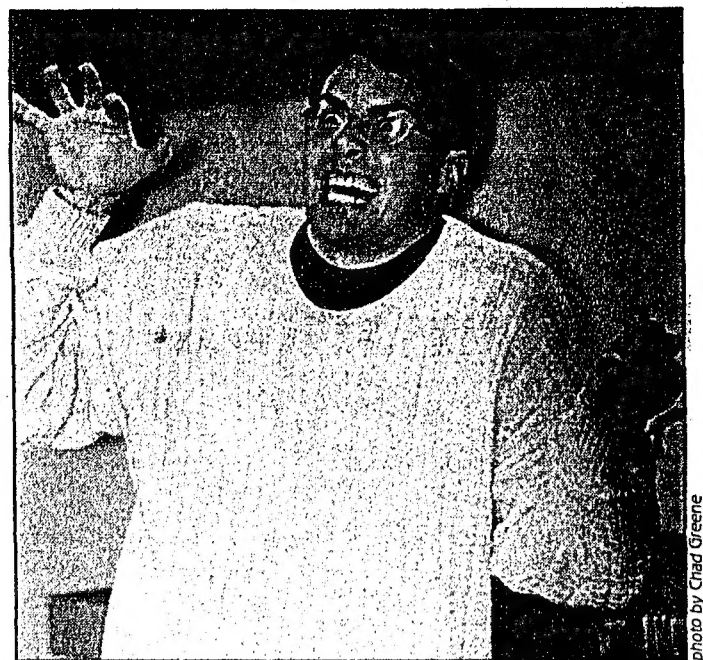
The way the program is set up is fairly comprehensive. The first half of classes, about the first 4-6 weeks, the coaches spend the majority of the time with students involved. After this period, the coaches are there, but the students "tend to go on their own" for the duration. The coaches are always available for help, and meeting with other participants outside of these sessions is common. "A lot of people make friends through this program," Schramm said.

Although these activities are entertaining, one must not forget that the main point of this program is to prevent health risks. "Heart disease can start (as early as) 20," Schramm explained, pointing out the obvious dangers in neglecting to exercise in youth. Young people are encouraged to join, although most of these participants are UNO faculty and their spouses.

The cost to join in is \$70, which Schramm said is a bargain. "If somebody were to come to us for a fitness assessment, the cost would be \$50." In the Fitness for Life program, the participant receives three fitness assessments plus one-on-one coaching.

This program has a banquet that is held at the end of the program. Each member is invited to a dinner where they bring a favorite healthy dish. This time is used to socialize with the friends you have made during class and take a break from the rigorous activity during classes. This relaxing time is a reward, well deserved for those who participate in extra sessions on their own.

The cost to join this program recycles back into itself. The money goes toward equipment and gives income to the lab. In addition, as an added bonus for members, this money goes toward "incentive prizes" for the participants, such as T-shirts, water bottles, shorts and other goods.



Sean Schmeits displays a rare acting technique at the Shakespeare on the Green auditions.

## from FRANCKE, Page 2

a look of seriousness on his face as if the issue still makes his thinning hair rise. "Here they're going to make millions and millions from the tour, but they pressured newspapers to run free ads."

The *OmahaWorld Herald* ran the free ad claiming that it served their readers needs. "That's where I sorta went up over the top," Francke said. "Readers may desire to go see Michael Jackson in concert, but they don't NEED to like breathing. We need food. We need oxygen. We don't need a Michael Jackson concert."

Most recently, Francke's voice could be heard on KFAB and his face seen on the Cox Cable O2TV television show "View from the Bluffs." The topic? What else but the Marvin Ammon's case and of course the Monica Lewinsky /

President Clinton controversy.

In relation to the Ammons case, Francke said, "The World Herald seemed to make a good faith effort to try to balance the coverage." He pointed out last Sunday's side-by-side profiles of Marvin Ammons and the officer who shot him, Todd Sears. He also credits the local television news cast with attempting to present a balanced story.

And how has the media performed in covering the recent Clinton controversy? "It seems like this week ... commentators are saying what I said a week earlier, which is the president benefits from media excess. The hyper-coverage creates sympathy for the person being covered," Francke said. "It's not a healthy climate for public opinion when media behavior distracts from the issue."

# Family Day at Playhouse Provides Enlightenment

by Melanie Wilson

One night, or two if you choose, of "togetherness." Just the family taking in some exciting activities. Other children will be running around as well, having fun listening to stories and joining in cultural activities. Sound good? All right then.

The Nebraska Theatre Caravan is hosting Family Days for two Saturdays. Different cultural groups are hosting events to give detailed explanations and demonstrate the value of their culture.

This year it will be held Jan. 31 and Feb. 7 at the Omaha Community Playhouse. The event will be held in the food court from noon until 4 p.m., with an admission fee of \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. This cost covers admission for the Caravan production of "Legends of the Blue Marble," which is about mythical figures from different cultures who come together toward the same goals.

Rachel Hauben, development and publicity coordinator for the Nebraska Theatre Caravan, believes that these events will broaden

people's minds to other cultures. These activities are presented to better serve communities by shedding light on how other cultures choose to believe and live. Since this event is geared toward children

**Different cultural groups are hosting events to give detailed explanations of what they are about and to demonstrate the value of their culture.**

and parents, hopefully families will come in to learn a little about their ancestors or even other cultures that are of interest.

Many people have contributed this year, including The Ponca Tribe of Omaha, which will host dances and have a teepee set up near the playhouse. Other groups will also be hosting events, displays and activities: La Belle Afrique, Japanese American Cultural League, Jewish Federation of Omaha, El Grupo Folkorico de Guadalajara, Inc., Red Square representing Russia, and Ta-

Zorbas representing Greece. This year's theme, "Celebration of World Culture," is reflected in the Caravan productions of "Legends of the Blue Marble" and "1776," which have cultural and mythological messages. The Caravan itself is a "professional touring wing" of the playhouse. The Caravan returns to Omaha every year for a winter residency. This year the residency consists of "1776," which will be held on the mainstage of the playhouse from Jan. 23 to Feb. 21, the Family Day Celebration, and Omaha Kids'

Caravan performances on Feb. 14 and 21. The Caravan is funded by grants through the Nebraska Arts Council and United Arts Omaha and donations from other places including the Zucker Fund of the Omaha Community Foundation, Edward and Lida Robinson Charitable Trust, Target and US West. Their donations have made this acting crew, this cultural festival, as well as past and future activities, possible. For ticket information, call 553-0800.

## from MAINTENANCE, Page 1

we (the university) are seeking a commitment from the Legislature and the governor to receive state funding of this \$5.9 million each year for 10 years. This plan is to go into effect beginning fiscal year 2000," Smith said.

If LB1100 is passed, the funds that will repair the campus facilities will be matched by university and state college tuition revenues.

Secondly, the university has an "aggressive" plan to eliminate the \$108 million backlog.

There are 16 projects proposed for the universities. The appropriated funds will allow renovation of Richards Hall at UNL and the West Center Building on the UNK campus.

As for UNO, this plan will work on the improvement of Allwine Hall and the College of Arts and Sciences. "There are significant prob-

lems with some of the motors that run the air conditioning and heating systems," Smith said. "Both buildings need maintenance."

This proposal was introduced by Nebraska Sen. Dan Lynch and is backed by both Lynch and Gov. Ben Nelson.

"Within 10 years, this plan will be able to take care of the needs of these facilities without any additional increase in the current backlog," Smith said.

The renovation and repair of the 16 buildings will eliminate 70 percent of the backlog, Smith said. "That will allow the remaining 30 percent to be taken care of at a leisurely pace."

This program is scheduled to begin this summer and extend over a 2 to 3 year period, including all 16 projects.

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# Sports

## Gateway Athletes of the Week

by Andy Nordmeier

This week's athletes share the common theme of not being in the media spotlight that often.

For the men the award was split between hockey goaltender Kendall Sidoruk and wrestler Jose Medina.

Medina, a junior from Chicago, won all three of his matches over the weekend in the 190-pound class, two of them by pinfall.

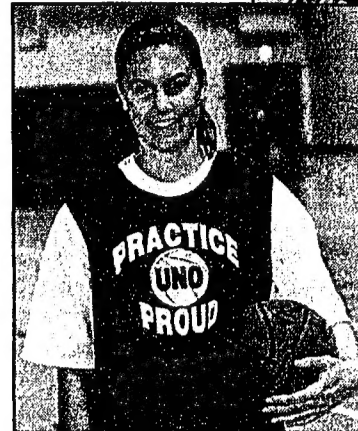
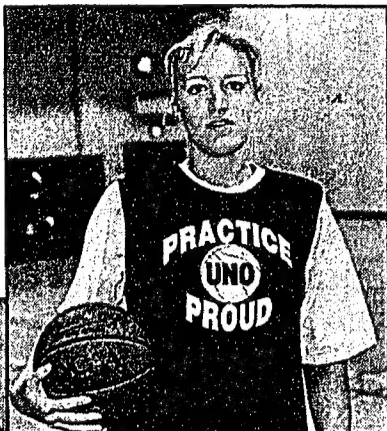
Medina kept the Mavs in last Friday night's meet against Central Oklahoma by coming through with a pin of Edwin Lorne in 1:40. His pin gave the Mavs a shot to rally and win the dual, but the team fell a point short.

Saturday saw Medina polish

off Mike Schadwinkel of Adams State in a hurry. He dropped Schadwinkel to the mat in 46 seconds for a quick win in the 37-6 annihilation of Adams State.

Later in the day, Medina recorded his lone decision win of the weekend as he beat Andy Sisteck of Nebraska-Kearney by a 6-3 score. The win earned him three points and

*The Gateway Athletes of the Week are (from left) Jose Medina, Sarah Larson, Kim Birkel and Kendall Sidoruk.*



to handle the rock. Kim Birkel and Sarah Larson combined to score 43 of the Lady Mavs' 127 points in their two losses last weekend.

Birkel tied with Larson for the team lead in points Friday as each had 11 in the 70-69 loss to St. Cloud State. She also added six

rebounds, two blocks and two steals in her 21 minutes.

Saturday night saw Birkel lead the team with another 11 point effort in the loss to Mankato State.

Larson had 11 points, five rebounds, three assists and a pair of steals in the loss to St. Cloud. Saturday night featured Larson as one of the four Mavs in double figures as she hit for 10 points on the night.

contributed to Kearney losing a point as Sisteck got frustrated during the match and was called for unsportsman-like conduct.

"He had two pins over ranked opponents and will wrestle the number one wrestler in his weight in two weeks," head coach Mike Denney said, "He has done a great job and led the

team by example."

Sidoruk came up with the biggest save of the season in Saturday night's hockey game as he denied Air Force's Mike DesRoche on a penalty shot in the final minute of regulation. Sidoruk also stopped 24 other shots in the 4-3 win on Saturday night. The sophomore raised his record to 2-4-1 on the season.

For the women, the award goes to a pair of women who know how

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photos by Steve Houlton

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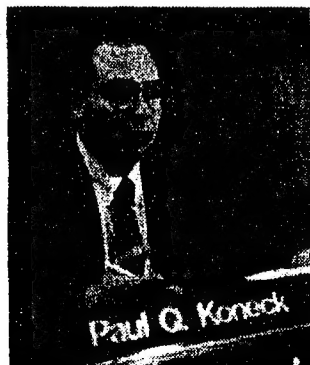
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Wed., Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, 1998  
3<sup>rd</sup> Fl., MBSC, State Room  
UNO Student Democrats

## On the Right Track

### Mavs look to run past competition in Doane

by Andy Nordmeier

The Mav track team will hope to use their successes from last weekend's South Dakota Invite and propel themselves to a strong outing in tomorrow's Tiger Classic in Doane, Neb.

Doane is the only meet that will have a team score kept before the North Central Conference (NCC) meet on Mar. 1-2 in Fargo, N.D.

Head coach Tim Hendricks is looking forward to this meet for a couple of reasons.

"South Dakota was a slow track but Doane is faster and better suited for sprints," Hendricks said. "Over the next three weeks before the conference meet, we will start tapering our training."

Most of the competition the Mavs will face is in-state rivals, (Nebraska-Kearney, Wayne State, Nebraska Wesleyan and Chadron State and host Doane), but Northwest Missouri will field a team as well. Despite the competition, Hendricks thinks that the Mavs should be able to win it.

The NCC meet is when the Mavs look to peak as a team and Hendricks knows the team is on the way there.

"We're slowly getting back up to this year," Hendricks said. "For some it takes longer than others and they just keep plugging away at it."

The Mavs did fare well last weekend as they had four event winners including a record-setting performance in the 4x200-meter relay.

The 4x200 relay team of Karissa Foight, Jamie Erkes, Kelly Koziol and Carri Butler won the event in 1:43.75 seconds and shattered the old record of 1:44.96 set back in 1984.

The last three members of that squad are the same three from the team that went to the indoor nationals in the 4x100 relay last year.

Butler is currently second in the NCC in the quarter mile and has run strongly in the 55, 400, 500 and mile relay so far this season. She has wrapped up three provisional qualifying

see TRACK, Page 7

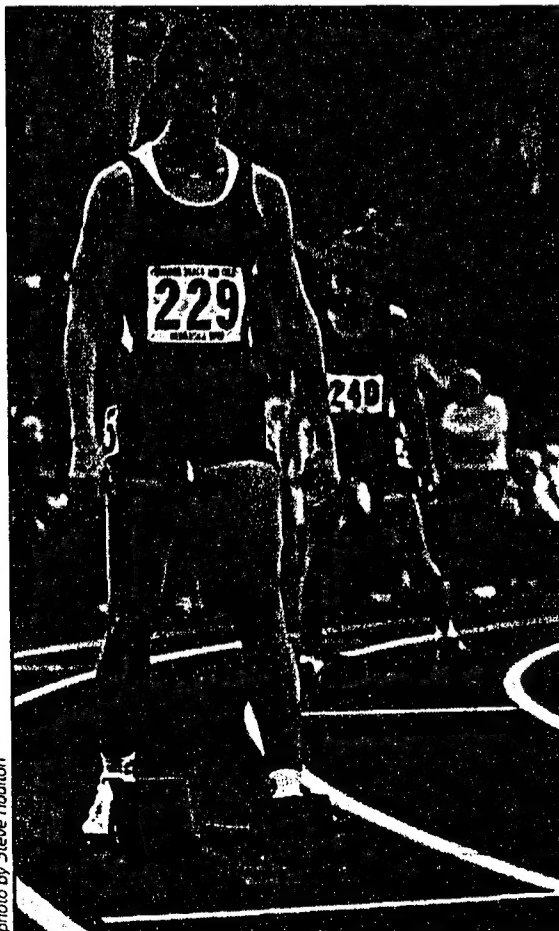


photo by Steve Houlton

Cathy Craig (left) and Suzanne Larsen prepare to take their marks in the 200 Meter Dash.



## by Andy Nordmeier

After this weekend, the schedule doesn't get easier for the Lady Mavs as they host the

After this weekend, the Mavs host Northern Colorado, North Dakota and North Dakota State before closing out the season on the road at South Dakota and Morningside. All five teams are in the logjam of fourth place at 5-6 in the NCC.





*UNO guard Tiffany Volk slashes between a pair of Mankato State defenders as she pushes the ball up the floor.*

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The Mavs kept dancing on by finishing 3-4 in the 1000-meter run. Becky Goltz was third in 3:10.77 and Jamie Brown was fourth in 3:17.46. Brown is also ranked fourth in the NCC in the event.

"I didn't know Augie had strong half-milers," Hendricks said. "They may

"These last few days (leading up to South Dakota), they have been through some tough workouts and most were running a little tired," Hendricks said, "but we are a little ahead of last year's pace."

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# Campus

## recreation

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### Intramural Standings for the week of January 26-February 1.

#### How To's

**NUTRITION &  
FAD DIETS**  
Thursday, Feb. 19  
12-1 pm, MBSC

**INTERPERSONAL  
RELATIONSHIPS**  
Tuesday, Feb. 24  
12-1 pm, MBSC, Jenkins Rm.

#### 5x5 Basketball

**Wednesday B League**  
Koichi's vs. Nomu  
Sig Ep B vs. NADS  
Takashi's vs. BYE

Scores  
52-79  
W/NADS

**Sunday A League Yellow Pool**  
Omaha vs. Silk  
Vikings vs. DA  
Grumpy Old Men vs. BYE

45-55  
55-68

**Sunday A League Red Pool**  
BMW vs. Prime Time  
Pistons vs. Ballers  
Lakers vs. BYE

70-71  
53-47

#### 5x5 Basketball (cont.)

**Sunday B League**  
Hawg Wild vs. Team Lord  
Oussiders vs. Reserves  
R&B vs. Runnin

Scores  
45-31  
64-65  
55-67

#### 4x4 Volleyball

**Sunday Frat League**  
KSA vs. Lambda Chi  
Sig Ep vs. Theta Chi

2-0  
2-0

**Sunday B League**  
Sig Eps vs. Free Agents  
Theta Chi vs. Chi O

W/L F  
2-0

#### Soccer

**Sunday A League**  
Scorpions vs. JFC  
America vs. Tenacious D

Scores  
5-1  
7-2

**Sunday B League**  
Free Agents vs. Swingers  
GDT vs. Delta

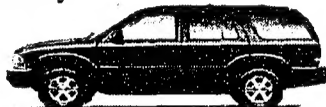
5-2  
W/L F

F=Forfeit

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19th Annual "Volley for Life" Benefit Volleyball Tournament for Emergency Pregnancy Service will be held on February 22nd at Creighton Prep. Recreational and competitive divisions. Fraternities and Sororities-what a great service project! For more information and entry forms call Jan Brannen at 334-9533 or the EPS Office at 554-1000.

State room in MBSC 12:00 noon to 12:50 p.m. on Tuesdays for readings from "Chicken Soup for the Christian Soul." "Chicken Soup" readings for your hungry soul and bagels for your hungry body. Campus Lutheran Fellowship Pastor Dell Tschudin 5 9 7 - 1 4 9 8 tschudin@unomaha.edu

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